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# THE

# Child



Monthly News Summary

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## THE CHILD --- Monthly News Summary

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## CONTENTS

## SOCIALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

SOME PROBLEMS OF ADOPTION, BY <i>Agnes K. Hanna</i> - - - - -	3
NEWS AND RESEARCH NOTES - - - - -	7
CLEVELAND REPORT ON CHILD PLACING	
BIBLIOGRAPHIES ON FOSTER-HOME CARE	
PROCEEDINGS OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK - - - - -	8
BOOK AND PERIODICAL NOTES - - - - -	9

## SOCIAL-SECURITY PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN

ON THE WINDWARD SIDE OF OAHU - - - - -	10
PROGRESS OF PLANS FOR AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN, BY <i>Zilpha Franklin</i> - - - - -	11
STATE PLANS IN ACTION - - - - -	12
DEVELOPMENTS IN MAINE MATERNAL AND CHILD-HEALTH PROGRAM	
PREVENTION OF DEFORMITIES IN WISCONSIN	
ARIZONA MOBILE TUBERCULOSIS UNIT	
READING NOTES - - - - -	12

## MATERNAL, INFANT, AND CHILD HEALTH

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT OF 219 PUEBLO INDIAN CHILDREN - - - - -	14
NUTRITION STUDIES BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS - - - - -	16
NEWS AND RESEARCH NOTES - - - - -	16
FUND FOR STUDY OF INFANTILE PARALYSIS	
MATERNAL MORTALITY STUDY IN BALTIMORE	
BOOK AND PERIODICAL NOTES - - - - -	17

## CHILD LABOR

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM FOR 1937 - - - - -	20
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND GUIDANCE - - - - -	21
NEWS AND RESEARCH NOTES - - - - -	22
REPORT OF A.F.L. AT TAMPA CONVENTION	
HOLIDAYS FOR HOME WORKERS IN GERMANY	
BOOK AND PERIODICAL NOTES - - - - -	22

## OF CURRENT INTEREST

NEW PERIODICALS - - - - -	24
CONFERENCE CALENDAR - - - - -	24

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## CHILDREN'S BUREAU

KATHARINE F. LENROOT, CHIEF

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

FRANCES PERKINS

SECRETARY



# THE CHILD — MONTHLY NEWS SUMMARY

Volume 1, Number 6

December 1936

## SOCIALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

### SOME PROBLEMS OF ADOPTION

BY AGNES K. HANNA, DIRECTOR,  
SOCIAL SERVICE DIVISION, CHILDREN'S BUREAU

"Have you a child that I can adopt?" The fact that this query is constantly being made to social agencies throughout the country indicates a growing realization on the part of prospective parents of the need for selecting a child who can fit into their family life. A number of recent articles and publications have brought to public attention some of the problems associated with adoption. Unfortunately most of these discussions of adoption have placed major emphasis on the emotional satisfaction of the adopting parents and the material advantages to the child, and have failed to bring out the importance of selecting parents who have real understanding of the needs of the child and of the problems that may be encountered as he grows older.

Parent-child relationships are complex, even with ties of blood relationship. The person who assumes responsibility for establishing such a relationship by placing a child for adoption has an obligation to both the parents and the child. She must bring to the foster parents an understanding of the child's physical and mental make-up and his parentage and background, and she must assist in interpreting to them personality problems and situations that are undesirable for the child's development.

It is easy, therefore, to understand why many social agencies are concerned about the apparently increasing number of persons, nurseries, or maternity homes that place children without considering many aspects of the problem except the financial ability of the proposed parents to care for the child, and that have no plan for follow-up services. Some of these persons or institutions are wholly or partly supported by fees ostensibly paid for care given to the child or by donations of prospective foster parents to the organization.

#### State Programs

During the past year the Children's Bureau has been making a study of adoption procedure in States that have authorized the State department of welfare to make social investigations of adoption petitions referred by the courts. In the States visited<sup>1</sup> records were obtained of adoption petitions referred to the State department during 1934. These included petitions referred during the entire year in all the States except California and Massachusetts, where only petitions referred during the first 6 months were studied.

<sup>1</sup> Alabama, California, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, Wisconsin.

In three of the States visited records were also obtained from a few social agencies, since in California and Rhode Island certain private agencies are authorized by the law to make investigations, and in Massachusetts the law is not applicable to placements made by social agencies.

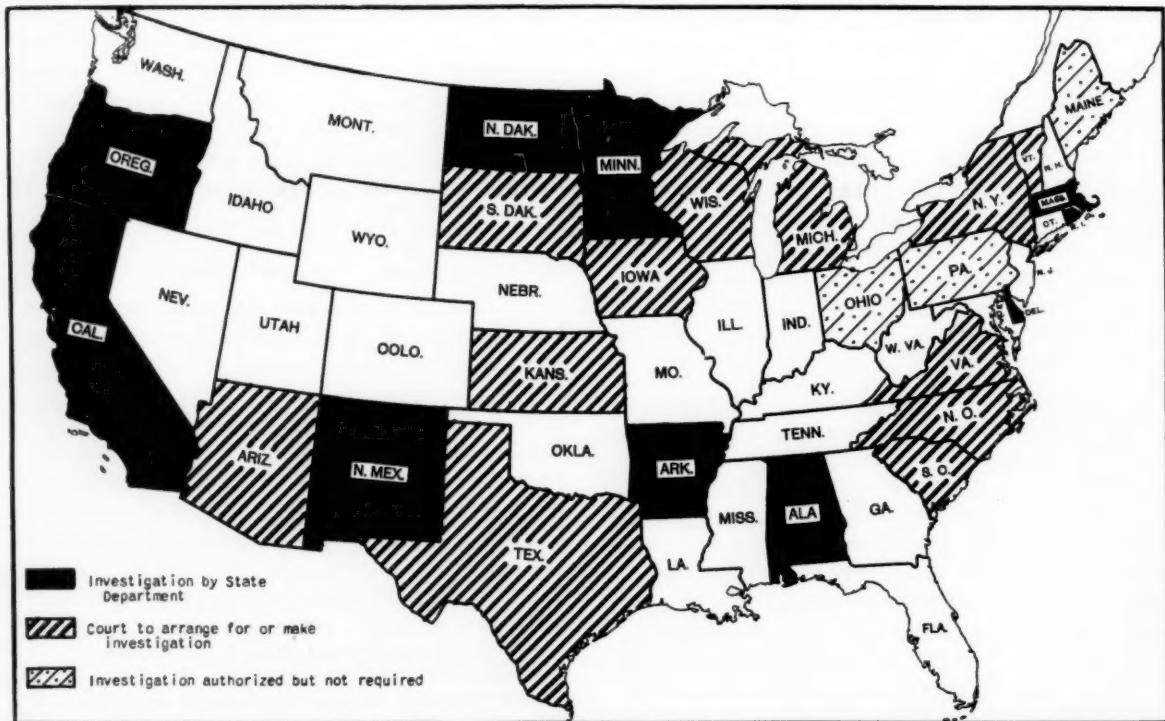
Information was obtained in regard to approximately 2,000 adoption petitions. These represented practically the total number of petitions filed in the courts of the States during the period studied, except in Wisconsin, where the State department makes investigations for children born out of wedlock who are not under the care of licensed agencies and for other children whose cases may be referred by the courts. Information regarding a few petitions was not available in Minnesota and North Dakota, since the law gives the courts authority to waive investigation. In Minnesota this is done only occasionally in actual practice.

### *The Adoptive Parents and the Children*

These 2,000 adoption petitions may be divided into two general groups: those filed by relatives, and those filed by other persons. About 40 percent of the petitioners were relatives, including step-parents, grandparents, and other near relatives, a stepparent being the petitioner in about half of these cases.

The children to be adopted included both children born out of wedlock and children whose parents had been married. The former group was larger, comprising about 60 percent of the total. As might be expected, the majority of the children of legitimate birth were to be adopted by relatives. It is of interest to note, however, that nearly 30 percent of the children born out of wedlock were also to be adopted by relatives, a stepfather petitioning in about one-half of these cases.

STATES REQUIRING OR AUTHORIZING SOCIAL INVESTIGATIONS IN ADOPTION CASES



#### *Social Agencies and Adoptions*

The children adopted by persons other than relatives are of major concern to social agencies, although agency services may be a vital factor in furthering the adoption by competent relatives of children who otherwise might be placed with other persons. In discussing the part taken by social agencies in the placement of children for adoption in these States, it should be understood that the term social agency has been interpreted broadly and includes all organizations licensed or approved as placing agencies or accepted by the State as agencies undertaking social services for children. Some of these agencies were poorly equipped for this service, whereas others were doing a high grade of work.

About 1,200 records were obtained of children placed in the homes of persons who were not relatives. Public and private agencies had been responsible for 60 percent of these placements, and parents and relatives for 27 percent. Other persons, many of them associated in some way with the mother's confinement, had been responsible for the remaining placements. The proportion of placements by relatives and other persons was higher in some States than in others. These figures present a challenge to social agencies. Far too many of these children were placed by persons having no understanding of the complex problems involved in placement of children in family homes.

The opinion of the investigating agency as to the desirability of proposed adoptions was not given in a small percentage of the records, but more than 90 percent of the adoptions were approved, although in only three-fourths of the cases was the adoption considered desirable or satisfactory. Approval was given in many instances even when conditions were unsatisfactory, because of the ties of affection that had been established between child and foster parents.

Recommendations to the courts to withhold the decision as to adoption until a

later period or to disapprove the adoption were given in 6 percent of the cases. It should be noted that the State in which there was the largest number of disapprovals or questions as to the desirability of adoptions had a comparatively small proportion of placements by social agencies.

#### *Services to Unmarried Mothers*

As a large proportion of the children placed for adoption by relatives or other persons were born out of wedlock, the need for having the services of a social agency available to unmarried mothers is evident. A number of States have undertaken to control placements of children by prohibiting placements except those made by authorized agencies. Valuable as such provisions are if they are put into operation through a continuing educational program, they have little effect unless the girls and women who need assistance in caring for their children can obtain advice and help at the time that it is needed.

Figures from various sources indicate that in urban areas the majority of illegitimate births occur in hospitals. Often a plan for care of the child is made before admission of the mother to the hospital, but if understanding service were given and the cooperation of physicians enlisted while the mothers were in the hospital a larger proportion of children born there would be placed under the care of social agencies. In order to obtain more information on this problem, the Children's Bureau is at present engaged in a study of social services available to unmarried mothers receiving hospital care in five cities.

#### *Trends in Legislation*

The first adoption law in the United States was enacted by Massachusetts in 1851. This first law, like other early laws, simply provided a means whereby a child could become a legal member of a family not his own; rights of inheritance were assured, but no attention was paid to the social significance of adoptions. Many

of these early laws have since been amended, sometimes to the advantage of the child and sometimes not.

The greatest progress made in safeguarding adoption has been within the past two decades. The newer legislation provides for a social investigation in order that the court may know about the child and his background as well as the social situation in the family home into which he is to be adopted. It also provides that the child live for a trial period in the proposed home and that formal consent to the adoption be given by the natural parents or other guardians. Other related protective measures incorporated in the adoption law or provided for elsewhere are restrictions on parental transfer of custody, authorization to change a child's birth record when he is adopted, and prohibition of placements by unauthorized persons.

#### *Investigations by State Department of Welfare*

In 1917 Minnesota gave to the State department responsible for public welfare the added responsibility for investigating adoption petitions referred by the courts of the State and for making reports of findings to the courts. Since that time about one-fourth of the States have accepted this principle in their legislation, and others are definitely considering the advisability of passing similar laws in the near future.

One of the purposes of the study of adoption made by the Children's Bureau was to discover how effective this plan of investigation by the State welfare department is in operation. Evidence was found that when investigations were made by a skillful person many undesirable or unnecessary adoptions were prevented, no further action being taken by the prospective parents. Furthermore, many records showed that the persons making the investigation had given much needed information and advice to the adoptive parents. Successful administration of the adoption program in a State is determined largely by the extent to which public and private

child-placing agencies cooperate with the State department in the development of uniform standards and policies. An active program of interpretation on the part of the State department is needed to bring about general appreciation of the value of a careful investigation of both the child and the foster home.

As the courts have final authority in cases of adoption, a number of judges were visited in each State to obtain an expression of their attitude toward the requirement of investigation by a State department. It was encouraging to find that 16 judges gave unqualified approval to this requirement, and that 40 expressed general satisfaction with it. Nine judges had some reservations as to the value of the provision or as to the way in which it was administered, but only two could see no advantage in the investigation and were definitely opposed to the participation of the State department in matters of adoption.

#### *Trial Period in the Home*

The desirability of deferring adoption until a child has been in the foster home for a period long enough to assure satisfactory adjustment to the family, and to allow study of his mental and personality development, has been demonstrated by the experience of social agencies. Many agencies prefer a 2-year period, but 1 year is generally accepted as a minimum time for constructive services.

The trial period has been given too little attention in legislation. In nearly two-thirds of the States no requirement is made in the adoption law that a child should live in a home for a minimum period of time before a decree of adoption is granted. Thirteen States require a 6-month period of residence. In six States an interlocutory decree is given by the court, which is in effect for a year (2 years in one State) before final action is taken by the court. In States requiring an interlocutory decree, supervision of the home

by the investigating agencies during the trial period is required or may be ordered by the court. In some situations additional visits to the home may not be needed, but they are important when a child has been placed in a home without regard to essential safeguards.

#### Recommendations

A State can safeguard adoptions to a great extent by providing for the social

investigation of adoption petitions, arranged for by the State department of public welfare, and for a trial period in the proposed home before a child is adopted. But it is the skill and understanding of the person placing the child that is of primary importance. Social agencies, both public and private, should assume more responsibility for children available for adoption, and increase their services for unmarried mothers whose children are most often placed by unqualified persons.

#### NEWS AND RESEARCH NOTES

*Cleveland report on child placing* Home-finding and child-placing developments from January 1 to November 1, 1936, are described in a report of the Cleveland Children's Bureau (1900 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio, 1936; 8 pp. mimeographed) to the Cleveland Foundation. Although the number of children placed in boarding homes has increased, many more children are reported to be in need of placement. Unprecedented need in 1937 is predicted, for the following reasons:

(1) Families, because of the depression, are not being rehabilitated as rapidly as in predepression years.

(2) Older children are staying longer under care because they cannot get jobs.

(3) Relatives are able to take children in fewer cases than previously, because of financial difficulties.

(4) Fewer free homes are available and children already placed in free homes are frequently returned because of inadequate family income.

In addition is listed the inability of the county child-welfare board and the humane society to increase the number of children for whom they make provision. It is also stated that parents are asking to have their children placed because of their anxiety as to the future of relief or because, in the absence of public funds for rent, they have been evicted and are living in furnished rooms.

#### Bibliographies on foster-home care

Foster-home care is the subject of several recent bibliographies. "Foster-Family Care" is a selected bibliography compiled by Margaret M. Otto, as Bulletin No. 139 of the Russell Sage Foundation Library. Most of the material listed has been published since 1929, although a few references to earlier publications are included for their historical value. This can be obtained from the Russell Sage Foundation (130 East 22d St., New York, 1936; 4 pp.).

"Foster Homes: a selected bibliography" has been compiled in the library of the Minnesota State Board of Control, from which it can be obtained in mimeographed form (St. Paul, 1936; 7 pp.). This covers books and pamphlets printed during the period 1920-35 and periodical articles appearing during the years 1931-35.

The Children's Bureau has available a limited number of a 1-page compilation, "List of References on Foster-Home Care" (Washington, May 1936); and also a longer bibliography on adoptions, "List of References on Adoption," compiled by Evangeline Kendall (Washington, December 1935; 8 pp., mimeographed).

## PROCEEDINGS OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK

The policy adopted by the National Conference of Social Work, of printing only those papers containing material not already available, has resulted this year in a 648-page volume of highly concentrated interest ("Proceedings of the National Conference of Social Work at the Sixty-third Annual Session Held in Atlantic City, N.J., May 18-23, 1936"; permanent headquarters, 82 N. High St., Columbus, Ohio).

Paul U. Kellogg's paper, Employment Planning (pp. 454-469) received the Pugsley award by unanimous vote of the editorial committee, as the most important contribution to the subject matter of social work at the 1936 Conference.

Of special interest in the children's agency field are Some Experiments in Case Work in Motherless Families, by Lorraine Jennrich of Milwaukee (pp. 158-166); and Coordination of Institution Care of Children With Other Services in the Community, by Sybil Foster of the Child Welfare League of America (pp. 548-561). Miss Jennrich describes the housekeeping services offered to motherless families by the Family Welfare Association of Milwaukee as one method for the preservation of family life. Miss Foster finds four valid services of the institution surviving the wide swing away from institution care to the use of family homes. These services comprise the temporary care of children away from their own homes; convalescent care as a step between the hospital and own or foster home; diagnosis and treatment following diagnosis; and specialized services for groups of children who can be handled more readily in institutions than in homes.

Austin MacCormick, Commissioner, Department of Correction, New York City, discusses practical difficulties in the social approach to prevention and treatment of delinquency and crime (pp. 600-609). These difficulties he finds inherent in the attitude of society, which views crime with alarm and irrationality; and in the prevention and control of crime through police, prosecutors, judiciary, and prisons that are not organized for a social approach. Probation and parole, which should have a socialized point of view, are usually underfinanced and otherwise handicapped.

The social-work basis for prevention and treatment of delinquency and crime is discussed by Louise McGuire of the Juvenile Court of the District of Columbia, who takes up community factors (pp. 579-589); and by John Slawson of the Jewish Board of Guardians, New York City, who considers individual factors (pp. 590-599). The juvenile-delinquency field is further represented by Calvin Derrick, Superintendent, State Home for Boys, Jamesburg, N.J., with an article on the institution as an interlude in community adjustment of problem and delinquent children (pp. 470-480); and by Harrison Allen Dobbs, of the School of Social Service Administration, University of Chicago, with a paper on correctional-school training for delinquent children from community standpoint (pp. 481-493).

Reporting Activities of Group-Work Agencies, by Frances L. Adkins, of the Children's Bureau, Washington, D.C. (pp. 219-225) contains reference material in a field in which little has been published.

## BOOK AND PERIODICAL NOTES

(Socially Handicapped Children)

HANDBOOK ON SOCIAL CASE RECORDING, by Margaret Cochran Bristol. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1936. 219 pp.

This manual was evolved, in response to demand, from typewritten material prepared for University of Chicago students doing field work in

family welfare. In preparing the manuscript for publication, the author has adapted it for use by case workers in various types of social agencies, especially those in which funds and personnel are too limited to allow elaborate recording processes.

Since recording is an integral part of case work itself, some discussion of case-work practices has been included, and a few illustrative excerpts from case records have been given.

THE BOYS' CLUB AND JUVENILE DELINQUENCY, by Frederic M. Thrasher. *American Journal of Sociology*, vol. 42, no. 1 (July 1936), pp. 66-80.

Study of a boys' club in New York, opened in a crime-breeding area, showed that during its first 4 years, it was not an important factor in delinquency prevention. The boys' club has a function to perform as a unit in a community program for crime prevention rather than as a single preventive agency, concludes the author. Reprints are available from the author, School of Education, New York University, New York, N.Y.

HISTORY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR MENTALLY DEFICIENT CHILDREN IN CONNECTICUT. Compiled and published by Connecticut Special Education Association, New Haven, Conn., 1936. 125 pp.

"An act to encourage special educational provisions for children below standard physically or mentally" was passed by the Connecticut Legislature in 1921. In 1931 an act was passed providing State aid for special classes meeting certain conditions as to basis of admission and qualifications of teachers.

Local reports on special classes in cities and towns where they have been established are included in the volume. The New Haven report (pp. 21-58) states that ungraded classes for "truant and insubordinate pupils" were established there as early as 1871, and also gives an account of Dr. Arnold Gesell's surveys of backward and exceptional children in New Haven.

STEP BY STEP IN THE NURSERY SCHOOL, by Jennie N. Haxton and Edith Wilcox. Doubleday, Doran & Co., New York, 1936. 224 pp.

The authors, a supervisor in the New York Kindergarten Association and the principal of a nursery school maintained by the Association, record incidents of misbehavior at the school and the methods used in dealing with them. Both procedure and results are described, step by step, with discussion of the reasons for the action taken. The problems dealt with are temper tantrums, domination, slapping, eating difficulties, wetting, failure to walk, touching and possessing, and insecurity and fear.

INTERRELATIONS BETWEEN THE PRESCHOOL CHILD'S BEHAVIOR AND CERTAIN FACTORS IN THE HOME, by Berta Weiss Hattwick. *Child Development*, vol. 7, no. 3 (September 1936), pp. 200-226.

Data on 35 common types of preschool behavior and on 15 pertinent home factors were secured for 335 children ranging in age from 1 year and 11 months to 5 years and 8 months. An effort was made to correlate certain types of behavior with various home factors.

HOW TO MAKE MARIONETTES, by Edith Flack Ackley. Edited by Picture Scripts, Lincoln School of Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, 1936. 24 pp.

How to make marionettes for fun at home, plays at schools and clubs, and professional performances is described in this unusual booklet through illustrations and text that will appeal to both children and adults. The National Recreation Association (315 Fourth Ave., New York), which sponsors the publication, will supply copies in paper cover at 20 cents, and in board cover at 30 cents apiece.

#### PLEASE NOTICE

The Children's Bureau does not distribute the publications to which reference is made in THE CHILD except those issued by the Bureau itself. Please write to the publisher or agency mentioned for all others.

# THE SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN

## ON THE WINDWARD SIDE OF OAHU

Over the "Pali" (mountain), about half an hour's ride from Honolulu, a child-health demonstration is being carried on under the provisions of the Social Security Act. In this locality, on the windward side of the island of Oahu, lives a population part of whom are native Hawaiians, and nearly all of whom are poor. The maternal and infant mortality rates are high. A health center is being set up in a small wooden building on the school premises. Two well-qualified nurses under the immediate direction of the Territorial Division of Public-Health Nursing help with prenatal care and the care of infants and preschool children through assistance at the clinics and conferences and through visits to homes. Obstetrical care is provided in near-by hospitals when possible, and nursing assistance is made available for deliveries in the homes. Dental and nutrition services also will be provided. This is part of the plan for maternal and child-health services approved for Hawaii.

How real the need is in Hawaii for more adequate public health nursing, dental, nutrition, and child-welfare services, such as the various provisions of the Social Security Act make possible, is shown by the report of Dr. Edith P. Sappington, regional medical consultant of the Maternal and Child-Health Division of the Children's Bureau. Dr. Sappington, who visited Hawaii during the summer of 1936, reported that, outside of Honolulu, medical services by plantation-government physicians, reaching about half the population, are the most prevalent form of medical care on the island.

The number of persons for whom each plantation physician is responsible averages somewhere around 5,000. In addition, he has charge of the plantation hospital and in most cases serves also as the Government physician in his district, acting as local registrar of vital statistics and

10

giving physical examinations, including immunization, to school children. A number of these physicians stated frankly that lack of time deterred them from attempting public-health and preventive work.

Fewer than half the maternity cases in Hawaii are attended by physicians. Hospital facilities for needy mothers are lacking except on Kauai. Yet the poor conditions under which these people live, transportation conditions, and lack of time on the part of physicians, make home deliveries difficult. Mothers from rural areas can usually be persuaded to enter a hospital only by promising that they can be released after 3 days, so that they may return home to relieve the father of care of the family and allow him to return to work.

Dental caries is the outstanding defect among children in Hawaii. The plantations provide no dental service. Only a few rural schools have arranged for dental care, and there are no low-cost dental clinics in rural areas.

In addition to the plan for maternal and child-health services, a plan for services for crippled children in Hawaii under the Social Security Act was approved by the Children's Bureau on October 20, 1936. This plan, like that for maternal and child-health services, is administered locally by the Territorial Board of Health. The field work in connection with diagnostic clinics and follow-up care for crippled children is carried on by the public-health nurses along with the maternal and child-health services.

In developing plans for Hawaii, the unique racial and geographic composition must be taken into account. Large Chinese and Japanese populations cling to their own languages, customs, and diet, presenting a real challenge to the resources and imagination of nutritionists, public-health

nurses, and welfare workers. Filipino and Portuguese populations, also large, mingle more freely with the other races. Of the native Hawaiians, beauty loving and genial, comparatively few of the full blood remain. There are also a few Europeans.

The isolation of the various islands and the difficulty of traveling among them has hindered the development of a centralized child-welfare program in the past. Most of the child-welfare work that has been done has been carried on by the public-health nurses. Until the recent es-

tablishment of a daily airplane service between islands, the only means of communication was by an overnight boat trip, expensive, and so rough that few escape seasickness.

Under the stimulus of the Social Security Act, a Territorial child-welfare division is being organized, and a survey of needs made. Before many months have passed Hawaii hopes to be participating in the child-welfare program as well as in the maternal and child-health program and the program for crippled children.



## PROGRESS OF PLANS FOR AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN

BY ZILPHA FRANKLIN,  
INFORMATIONAL SERVICE, SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD

Twenty-seven States were cooperating in the Federal-State program for aid to dependent children under the Social Security Act on December 15, 1936. Federal grants totaling \$9,605,196 had already been made to them for this purpose. Federal assistance, together with State and local funds, is enabling the States to provide cash allowances for more than 290,000 children who have been deprived of the support of their natural breadwinner--a substantial increase over the number of children assisted under State mothers' aid laws in 1934.

Although so much has already been accomplished, both the Social Security Board and the States realize that much remains to be done. State cooperation in old-age assistance--with 42 States participating and providing assistance to more than a million individuals--has, for instance, far outstripped aid to dependent children. A number of States which as yet have no

plans for aid to dependent children are considering legislation and administrative provisions that would enable them to cooperate in the State-Federal program.

Other problems upon which the States are working have to do with the correlation of various welfare services in relation to family needs.

Families often request advice and guidance on all sorts of problems from the budgeting of their resources to questions of child training and education. The cash allowance, important as it is, will not meet all their needs. For this reason the careful coordination of all the welfare services available within a community is one of the most important objectives of the entire program. Federal and State agencies are therefore working for the development of increasing cooperation among welfare services for families with dependent children.

## STATE PLANS IN ACTION

*Developments in Maine maternal and child-health program*

The maternal and child-health program as it is developing in Maine is described in the *Maine Medical Journal* (vol. 27, no. 11 (November 1936), pp. 227-228) by Dr. Thomas A. Foster, Chairman of the State Advisory Committee, in an article entitled, "Developments in Maine Under Social Security Act Maternal and Child-Health Program." Preschool and infant conferences, post-graduate work for the medical and dental professions, and medical consultation service are already in operation. Post-graduate courses in obstetrics and pediatrics will be given in rural areas, making it possible for rural practitioners to attend near their own homes.

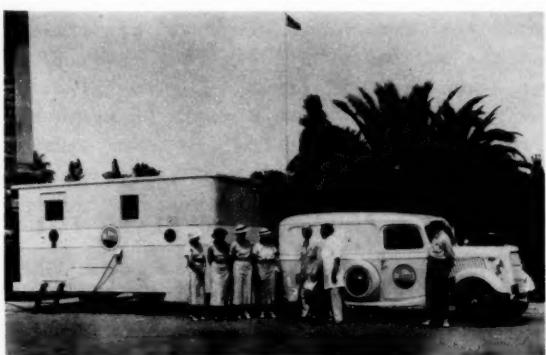
*Program on prevention of deformities in Wisconsin*

Through the cooperation of the State Medical Society of Wisconsin, a program on the prevention of deformities is being carried on by the Crippled Children Division, State Department of Public Instruction.

The first meeting was held November 19 in Superior, to be followed by meetings in each of the 13 councils of the State Medical Society during November and December. (Letter from Mrs. Marguerite L. Ingram, Director, Crippled Children's Division, State Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin, Nov. 17, 1936).

*Arizona mobile tuberculosis unit*

In order to find and study cases of primary tuberculosis among children and of contact cases among adults, a "healthmobile" is being operated in Arizona. Ex-service organizations provided funds for the purchase of the automobile and the building of the trailer laboratory. The equipment for the trailer and the cost of operation were provided for through the State plan for maternal and child-health services under the Social Security Act.



The staff consists of a physician as tuberculosis consultant, a field representative, a medical technician, a public-health nurse, and an assistant technician and engineer.

## READING NOTES

*Bibliography on Social Security Act*

The American Public Welfare Association (850 East 58th St., Chicago) has available in mimeographed form "Social Security; A.P.W.A. Bibliography No. 2" dated October 1936 (6 pp).

The items are grouped under general publications, social security in the States, and periodicals and periodical articles.

*Social-security articles reprinted*

So many requests have been received for the numbers of THE CHILD containing articles describing the three services for children in which the Children's Bureau cooperates under the Social Security Act, that the articles have been reprinted in pamphlet form.

The pamphlet is entitled "Social-Security Services for Mothers and Children"

and is now available free from the Children's Bureau (Washington, 1936, 24 pp.). It contains "Maternal and Child Health Services," by Albert McCown, M.D. (July 1936), "Services for Crippled Children," by Robert C. Hood, M.D. (August 1936), and "Child-Welfare Services," by Mary Irene Atkinson (November 1936).

A directory listing the State agencies administering the three services for children, with addresses and the names of persons in charge, is included in the pamphlet, and also a table showing Federal funds available and budgeted in State plans for the fiscal year 1937, reprinted from page 10 of *THE CHILD* for November 1936.

*North Carolina survey of relief families*

In anticipation of legislative needs, the North Carolina Emergency Relief Administration has issued "Social Security Survey of Emergency Relief

*Cases Covered by the Federal Social Security Act*" (compiled and edited by J.S. Kirk, Director of Social Studies, Raleigh, N.C., 1936; 141 pp., mimeographed). The survey covers 29,372 schedules of families under care in 1934 and 1935, and is intended to furnish accurate figures concerning the numbers, types and classifications, and the problems of the persons on relief who may be eligible to participate in the benefits of the social-security program. Analyses of records of families and persons on relief were made by social workers who had personal contact with the families.

*Relief problems and social security in Michigan*

Two recent publications of the State Emergency Welfare Relief Commission of Michigan are of interest in connection with the social-security program. "Unemployment, Relief, and Economic Security," is the second report of the Commission by William Haber,

State Relief Administrator and Paul L. Stanchfield (Lansing, Mich., March 1936; 329 pp.). It is a survey of Michigan's relief and unemployment problem. The conclusions and recommendations contained in Chapter 1 stress the permanent nature of the problem, and emergency relief experience as a guide to future legislation.

Chapter 5 relates to the Federal Social Security Act and to State legislation needed in connection with it.

The other publication, "The Problem of Economic Insecurity in Michigan," is a report to the State Emergency Welfare Relief Commission by William Haber and Paul L. Stanchfield (Lansing, Mich., August 1936; 79 pp.). This is a preliminary study of the place of unemployment insurance and other systematic measures for economic security in a State plan for Michigan.

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*Survey of custodial crippled persons in Michigan*

"Report on Survey of Custodial Crippled Persons in Michigan" brings together information on crippled persons who are not considered eligible for benefits under the social-security program. Five hundred and ten persons, about half of them children under 16 years, were classified as "definitely custodial cases"; i.e., crippled persons whose condition can be improved little if at all by orthopedic treatment, and who require care as dependents. Diagnosis and orthopedic care are not discussed in relation to age. The survey was made at the request of the Michigan Crippled Children Commission and was sponsored and directed by the Michigan Society for Crippled Children (526 Buhl Bldg., Detroit, Mich., 1936, mimeographed).

## MATERNAL, INFANT, AND CHILD HEALTH

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT OF 219 PUEBLO INDIAN CHILDREN

In one of the highest and driest portions of the United States--north-central New Mexico and northeast Arizona--live the Pueblo Indians in villages of primitive adobe houses. The doors and the few small windows in the houses are usually un-screened. As a rule, the whole family sleeps in one room, those who cannot find room in bed lying on the floor.

Water is so scarce that in some cases a single well must serve an entire village, and sanitary conveniences are practically nonexistent. The children rarely have fresh milk to drink; in exceptional cases it may be served to them at school. Canned milk, when used, is taken only in coffee.

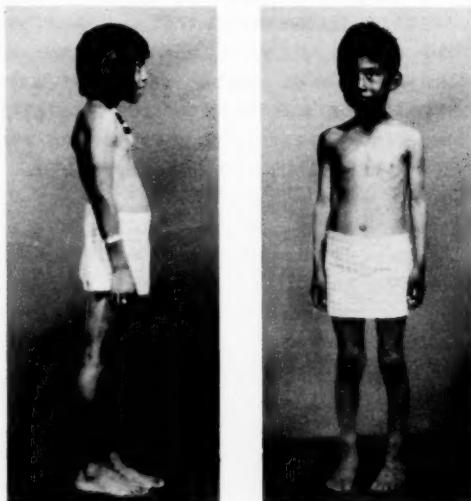
How do Indian children, brought up in these villages, compare with other children in the United States in physical development, in nutrition, and in general health?

In order to try to obtain answers to these questions 219 Pueblo Indian children, ranging in age from 7 to 11 years, were examined in the summer and fall of 1934. This study was a cooperative one, by the Children's Bureau, United States Department of Labor; the Carnegie Institution of Washington; and the Yale University School of Medicine.

The findings in regard to posture, general nutritional condition, weight, and height, were in brief as follows:<sup>1</sup>

Only a small proportion (6 percent) of the Pueblo Indian children studied were considered to have good posture. In half the children the posture was considered fair; the rest had posture that was considered poor. "Winged" scapulae, pot belly, and lordosis were frequent findings.

The girl whose picture is shown had all three of these conditions. The picture of the little boy shows knock-knees and lateral curvature of the lower legs, both common findings in these children. The



type of bowing of the legs and thighs characteristic of rickets, however, was found very infrequently.

The general nutritional condition of one-third of the children was rated as poor and that of nearly one-half as only fair, while less than one-fifth of these children had a nutritional condition that was considered good.

The weight and height for age of individual Pueblo Indian children compared with those of a large group of children of native white parentage are shown in the "scattergrams" on the next page. The lines show the average weight or height for age of the children of native white parentage.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A fuller report of the results of this study will appear in *American Journal of Diseases of Children* under the title, "Status of 219 Pueblo Indian Children," by Ethel C. Dunham, M.D., Sophie D. Aberle, M.D., Lucile Farquhar, Ph.D., and Michael D. Amico, M.D.

<sup>2</sup> Physical Measurements of Boys and Girls of Native White Race Stock (Third Generation Native Born) in the United States, by Selwyn D. Collins and Taliaferro Clark. *Public Health Reports*, vol. 44, no. 18 (May 3, 1936), p. 1066. (Reprint No. 1281, p. 8).

Each dot represents the height or the weight of an individual Pueblo Indian child.

Unpublished data<sup>3</sup> with respect to weight and height for age of Navajo Indian

WEIGHT AND HEIGHT OF INDIVIDUAL PUEBLO INDIAN CHILDREN AT SPECIFIED AGES  
COMPARED WITH AVERAGES FOR WHITE CHILDREN

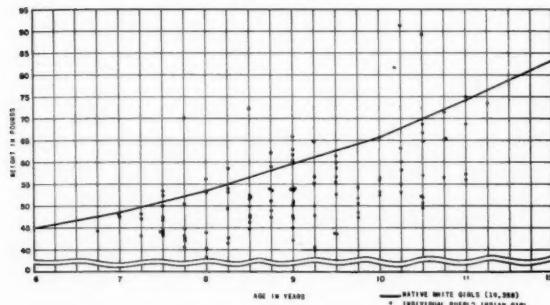


CHART 1. - GIRLS—WEIGHT FOR AGE

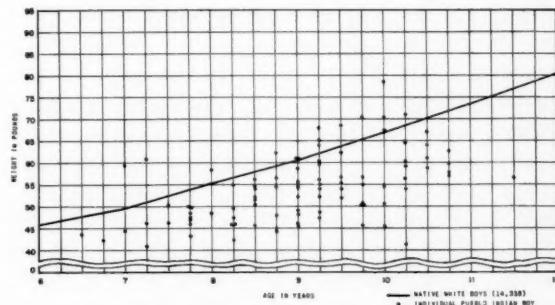


CHART 2. - BOYS—WEIGHT FOR AGE

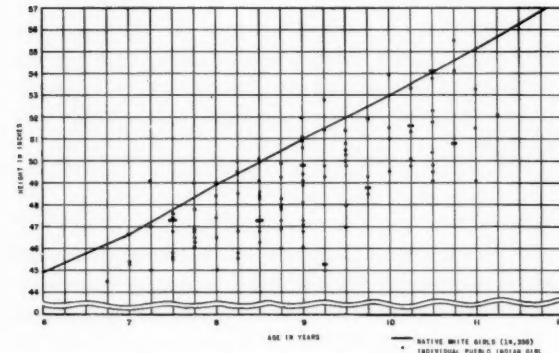


CHART 3. - GIRLS—HEIGHT FOR AGE

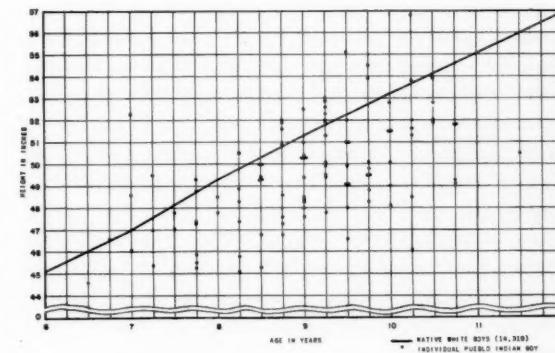


CHART 4. - BOYS—HEIGHT FOR AGE

Charts 1 and 2 show weight for age, and charts 3 and 4 show height for age.

The Pueblo Indian children were found to be both shorter and lighter in weight than the average white child of the same age and sex.

children show that Navajo Indian children are comparable to white children of the same age and sex with respect to height, but weigh less on the average. The Pueblo Indian children are shown to be shorter and to weigh less than the Navajo children.

<sup>3</sup> Data from unpublished study "Height, Weight, and Age Tables for Homogeneous Groups, with particular reference to Navajo Indians and Dutch Whites," by Morris Steggerda and Paul Densen, Carnegie Institution of Washington.

## NUTRITION STUDIES BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The subject of nutrition receives international recognition as a factor of importance to public health and economic welfare in a group of recent reports. These include a 4-volume report, *The Problem of Nutrition*, issued by the League of Nations (Series of League of Nations Publications, II. Economic and Financial--1936. II. B. 3, 4, 5, and 6; Geneva, 1936), and "Workers' Nutrition and Social Policy" issued by the International Labor Office (Studies and Reports, Series B (Social and Economic Conditions) No. 23; 249 pp.). All these reports are distributed in the United States by the World Peace Foundation (8 West Fortieth St., New York, N.Y.; 40 Mount Vernon St., Boston, Mass.)

Volume I, "Interim Report of the Mixed Committee on the Problem of Nutrition" (98 pp.; 50 cents) is the work of a committee of agricultural, economic, and health experts appointed by the League Council pursuant to a resolution of the Assembly in 1935, to review the reports of the technical committees (contained in the other volumes) and to submit a general report on the whole question of nutrition. This volume serves both as an introduction to and as a summary of the other volumes, including the report issued by the International Labor Organization.

Dietary needs during maternity and infancy and the importance of the protective foods are given special attention in "Report on the Physiological Bases of Nutrition" (vol. II, 27 pp., 15 cents). Daily dietary lists are given for pregnant women,

nursing mothers, and children up to 14 years of age. Quantitative requirements for older children and adults are given more indirectly. Nutritional requirements are stated in terms of optimal rather than average development. This volume is the work of a technical Commission appointed by the Health Committee of the League of Nations, and composed of 15 members representing 7 countries.

"Nutrition in Various Countries" (vol. III, 271 pp., \$1.40) contains detailed statements from 29 countries on postwar developments in nutrition or on measures taken to improve nutrition, or both. These statements were compiled by the Technical Organization of the League in consultation with the International Labor Office and the International Institute of Agriculture, and provide source material for the report of the Mixed Committee. "Statistics of Food Production, Consumption, and Prices" (vol. IV, 110 pp., 75 cents) completes the series.

"Workers' Nutrition and Social Policy" issued by the International Labor Office (\$1.50) takes up first the nutritive needs of workers in different occupations, and studies in turn the actual food consumption by workers' families, the possibility of improving nutrition through changes in agricultural production, incomes of wage-earners, social legislation, and the activities of educational agencies, trade unions, and cooperative societies in the field of nutrition.

## NEWS AND RESEARCH NOTES

*Fund for the study of infantile paralysis* Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Md., will be given about \$350,000 under the will of the late Mrs. M. B. Graham, Washington, D.C. This fund is to be used in seeking a cure for infantile paralysis. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, vol. 107, no. 21 (Nov. 21, 1936), p. 1725.

*Maternal-mortality study in Baltimore* The report of the Bureau of Child Hygiene of the Baltimore Department of Health contained in the annual report of the Department for 1935 (Department of Health, Baltimore, Md., 1936, pp. 125-140) states that a study to determine the causes underlying maternal deaths in Baltimore is being made by the Health Department in cooperation

with the Baltimore City Medical Society. This is being carried on by means of a detailed investigation and subsequent analysis of every fatality from puerperal causes. It is hoped that this investigation will result in recommendations for measures to reduce maternal and infant morbidity and mortality rates.

*British study of human genetics announced* The Bureau of Human Heredity (115 Gower St., London, W.C.1, England) has announced that it is collecting material dealing with human genetics, and would be glad to receive all available material from institutions and individuals containing authoritative data on the transmission of human traits. Pedigrees, twin studies, and statistical researches are desired.

The Bureau is affiliated with the International Human Heredity Committee. Its chairman is R. Ruggles Gates, and its executive committee comprises R. A. Fisher, J.B.S. Haldane, E.A. Cockayne, J.A. Fraser Roberts, L.E. Halsey, and C.B.S. Hodson.

*Peru maternity benefits* Maternity benefits are provided by a law on social insurance recently enacted in Peru. The law applies to all employed persons, including industrial home workers

and domestic servants and persons working independently, if their annual income is below a specified amount.

The workers pay into the insurance fund 2½ percent of their wages, to which the employers add 4½ percent and the State 1 percent.

An insured woman is entitled to medical and hospital care and medicines during pregnancy, confinement, and the puerperium; also to a cash benefit equal to one-half her wages for 36 days before childbirth and 36 days afterward. The cash benefit is paid on condition that she refrain from employment during that period. For 8 months after childbirth the woman receives in addition to her regular wages, a nursing benefit equal to one-fourth her average wages. If the woman is still unable to work 36 days after confinement, she receives the regular sick benefit, which also consists of medical and hospital care and medicines and a cash benefit of 50 percent of the wages, which may be paid for 26 weeks and in special cases extended for another 26 weeks.

A woman is deprived of the maternity and nursing benefit if she fails to comply with the physician's instructions or fails to attend a health center for mothers and children. *Banco Central de Reserva del Peru Boletín Mensual. Lima, Sept. 1936, p. 189.*

## BOOK AND PERIODICAL NOTES

### A. Communicable Diseases

**CONQUERING THE COMMUNICABLE DISEASES OF CHILDHOOD.** *Statistical Bulletin, Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., vol. 17, no. 10 (October 1936), pp. 6-9.*

A recent report of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. for insured children of ages 1 to 14 shows that the combined death rate from the four principal communicable diseases of childhood (measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough, and diphtheria) has reached a new minimum.

A chart shows the downward trend of the mortality rate since 1911 for each of the four diseases among children 1 to 14 years of age. The

percentage decline between the two periods, 1911-15 and 1931-35, was 72.5 for scarlet fever, 73.2 for whooping cough, 76.7 for measles, and 87.6 for diphtheria. Among reasons given for these reductions are the effectiveness of the modern measures for combatting diphtheria, the rising standard of living, and the dissemination of the knowledge of hygiene as applied to the family. But the magnitude of the problem that still remains is indicated by the fact that as recently as 1934 these four diseases were responsible for a total of 21,000 deaths in the United States.

ACTIVE IMMUNIZATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH; interim report of the Cleveland experience, by James A. Doull, M.D., Dr. P.H., F.A.P.H.A., Gerald S. Shibley, M.D., and Joseph E. McClelland, M.D. *American Journal of Public Health*, vol. 26, no. 11 (November 1936), pp. 1097-1105.

Between June 1934 and July 1935 a group of 483 Cleveland children between 6 and 15 months of age were given whooping-cough vaccine prepared from recently isolated strains of *H. Pertussis*. This group of treated children was compared with a group of 496 untreated children.

From June 24, 1934, to September 12, 1936, there occurred 61 "attacks" of whooping cough among inoculated children and 71 among control children. Tabulation of attacks by 12-week periods failed to show significant differences between the inoculated and control groups in the number of attacks occurring in any period. There was only 1 death, that of a control child.

The question of relative severity of attack among inoculated and control children will be discussed fully in the final report.

#### B. Nutrition

APPLIED DIETETICS, by Frances Stern. Williams & Wilkins Co., Baltimore, Md. 1936. 263 pp.

The chief of the food clinic of the Boston Dispensary writes on the planning and teaching of normal and therapeutic diets. Consideration is given to environmental factors that influence the effectiveness of the diet and to methods for individual instruction of low-income patients. Throughout the book special attention is given to the needs of children.

CAMP NUTRITION, by Victoria Kloss Ball. Welfare Federation of Cleveland and Cleveland Camp Council, Cleveland, Ohio, 1936. 180 pp.

The nutrition consultant for the Welfare Federation of Cleveland, assisted by several camp directors and dietitians, has prepared a handbook of food service based on an analysis of the costs, nutritive value, and administration of food service in 13 camps affiliated with the Welfare Federation. Tables of nutritive standards, guides for buying food and planning meals, low-cost quantity recipes, record forms, and chapters on camp sanitation and care of equipment add to the practical value of the handbook.

MENUS AND RECIPES FOR LUNCHES AT SCHOOL, by Rowena S. Carpenter, Helen N. Hann, and Fanny W. Yeatman. Miscellaneous publication No. 246, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, October 1936. 25 pp.

A popular bulletin from the Bureau of Home Economics. The noon meal at school is discussed in relation to the food needs of children from nursery-school to high-school days.

BASIS FOR ESTIMATING BUDGETS (WITH A HUMAN QUALITY), by Lucy H. Gillett. *Journal of Home Economics*, vol. 28, no. 9 (November 1936), pp. 585-591.

The director of the nutrition bureau of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor in New York City outlines minimum but adequate standards for the maintenance of health and self-respect among families receiving public or private relief. Sources of detailed information on family budgeting are listed. The paper, which was presented before the National Conference of Social Work, appears also in the Proceedings of the National Conference of Social Work for 1936.

A SURVEY OF MILK CONSUMPTION IN 59 CITIES IN THE UNITED STATES. Consumers' Counsel Series, Publication No. 2. Consumers' Counsel Division, Agricultural Adjustment Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, June 1936. 33 pp.

Returns from a survey of the purchase of whole and evaporated milk by 28,966 families in 59 cities in April or May 1934 indicate an average consumption of 2.44 quarts per person per week. (Nutritionists recommend an allowance of 3 to 5 quarts a week for each person in a family of average composition.) Families with higher incomes consumed more milk. As the number of children in the family increased, per capita consumption of milk tended to decrease. Families in Northern and Western cities tended to consume more milk than families in Southern cities. In general, milk was not regarded by the reporting families as a dietary necessity.

PASTEURIZED MILK IS YOUR BEST AND SAFEST FOOD, by Charles H. Mayo, M.D., Rochester, Minn. *Everybody's Health* (Minnesota Public Health Association, South St. Paul, Minn.), vol. 21, no. 11 (November 1936), pp. 4-5, 25, 30.

Dr. Mayo's paper is the leading article in the tenth annual milk issue of *Everybody's Health*, which also includes articles on the food values of milk

by Dr. E. A. Meyerding and Dr. W. W. Bauer, and on the protection of the milk supply, by Dr. L. R. Crichfield.

**NUTRITIVE VALUE OF DIETS OF FAMILIES OF WAGE EARNERS AND CLERICAL WORKERS IN NORTH ATLANTIC CITIES, 1934-35**, by Hazel K. Stiebeling. Reprinted from the *Monthly Labor Review* (July 1936), Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, 1936.

The Bureau of Home Economics of the Department of Agriculture has analyzed data collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics on the winter diets of families living in eight North Atlantic cities. As expenditures for food increased, the families spent a much larger proportion of their food money for protective foods and meats. Within the limits of the income levels studied, the higher-income groups, in general, enjoyed better diets. But at each level of expenditure for food, there was a wide range in the nutritive value of the diets. Low-income families would get more nutritive value for their money by increasing their consumption of milk, cheese, potatoes, dried legumes, and whole-grain breads and cereals.

#### C. General Public Health

**FUNCTIONS IN PUBLIC-HEALTH NURSING.** *Public Health Nursing*, vol. 28, no. 11 (November 1936), pp. 732-736.

This is a revision of "The Objectives in Public-Health Nursing," originally prepared by the Committee on Administrative Practice and Public

Relations in 1931 (see *Public Health Nursing*, September 1931). The new outline attempts to reflect present-day thinking with regard to changes and developments in the public-health movement. A limited number of reprints are available free from the National Organization for Public Health Nursing, 50 West 50th St., New York, N.Y.

**DENTAL HEALTH.** *The Commonwealth* (Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Boston), vol. 23, no. 3 (July-Aug.- Sept. 1936), pp. 175-215.

This issue of *The Commonwealth* is devoted entirely to the subject of dental health. In addition to a detailed presentation of a program of dental-health education for children by George E. Davis, D.D.S., there are several articles on the relationship between nutrition and dental health.

**HEALTHY CHILDREN.** National Congress of Parents and Teachers, 1201 Sixteenth St., N.W., Washington, D.C., 1936. 32 pp.

A brief outline for study and discussion with references for further reading is given on each of the following topics: Prenatal period and infancy, preschool period, the school child, adolescence, food in relation to health, teeth, contagious disease control, and community health. The pamphlet was prepared by Mary E. Murphy, National Chairman, Committee on Child Hygiene, National Congress of Parents and Teachers, in consultation with Dr. Hedger of the Elizabeth McCormick Memorial Fund; Dr. Eliot of the United States Children's Bureau; and Dr. W.W.Bauer of the American Medical Association.



## CHILD LABOR

### LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM FOR 1937

The Third National Conference on Labor Legislation, meeting at the call of the Secretary of Labor on November 9, 10, and 11, 1936, dealt with a number of problems definitely affecting the employment of children. Those attending included State labor commissioners and other representatives designated by the Governors of the States, representatives of State federations of labor, and others invited because of their special interest in the field of labor legislation. The reports and discussions of the Conference covered not only child labor but hours of labor, industrial home work, minimum-wage legislation, apprenticeship, and provisions of workmen's compensation laws especially affecting minors. It was the hope of the conference that its recommendations would receive consideration in States where the legislature meets in regular session in 1937.

#### *Child Labor*

The committee on child-labor standards pointed out that:

We are faced with evidence of increased employment of children under 16 years of age since the invalidation of the NRA codes. Reports show that 2½ times as many 14- and 15-year-old children went to work in the first 5 months of 1936 as did in the first 5 months of 1935, while the codes were still in effect. This return of child labor shows that, in spite of the very sincere desire on the part of many employers to maintain the standards of employment which were established under the NRA, the lack of a national uniform minimum age subjects them to the unfair competition of the marginal group of employers who are willing to exploit the young and inexperienced worker. Such exploitation of children for profit is clearly contrary to the spirit of the American people today, and we believe that it must be eliminated completely and permanently from our national life.

In view of these facts, the report of the resolutions committee, which was adopted by the conference, urged:

Federal cooperation with the States in the enforcement and maintenance of a 16-year minimum

for entrance into industry, with special protection against employment in hazardous occupations up to the age of 18 years.

As an essential step in this direction, completion of ratification of the child-labor amendment by the 12 States whose action is still required.

Standards for State child-labor legislation advocated by the conference include:

A minimum age of 16 for employment in all gainful occupations, including industrialized agriculture away from the home farm;

An 8-hour day and 40-hour week for young persons 16 and 17 years of age;

Prohibition of night work between 6 p.m. and 7 a.m. for the same group;

A requirement that employment certificates be obtained for all employment of minors under 18;

Prohibition of employment of persons under 18 in hazardous occupations, with State department of labor to have authority to determine hazardous occupations.

In addition it was urged that at least double compensation be provided for minors injured while illegally employed, the employer to be charged with primary liability for the payment of such compensation; that compensation for permanent disability be based in all cases upon the probable future earning capacity of the minor; and that provision be made for approval by competent State authority of the expenditure of the compensation granted in these cases.

#### *Hours of Labor*

The conference endorsed the standard of the 8-hour day and 40-hour week as a maximum for all workers. Only 2 States now have even a 44-hour week for minors under 18.

#### *Industrial Home Work*

Recommendations were also adopted in regard to industrial home work, which not only exploits the child who works on the process in the home but tends to break down labor standards in general. The speedy enactment of legislation looking to the abolition of home work and a search

for remedies for the interstate problems of home work was urged by both the child-labor and the home-work committees. The continuing home-work committee submitted a draft for a State law providing strict regulation of home work and looking toward its ultimate elimination. Complete elimination was held to be the only final solution, because of the difficulties inherent in the administration of a statute for the control of work that is done in private homes.

#### Minimum-Wage Legislation

The committee on minimum wage recommended that every effort be exerted by States and by the Federal Government to draft legislation on this subject conforming to the present limitations imposed by the Constitution. The conference also endorsed the proposal that the Federal Constitution be amended so as to permit minimum-wage legislation. When constitutional means have been devised, the committee recommended that States enact minimum-wage

laws for women and minors as rapidly as possible and, when the time seems ripe, for men as well.

#### Apprenticeship

The committee on apprentice training emphasized the need for establishing a stabilized program of apprenticeship throughout the country and recommended that the Secretary of Labor appoint a representative committee to draft suggested standards for incorporation in State apprenticeship legislation. It was recommended that these standards include provision for placing the administration of the law and the control of the labor-standards aspects of apprenticeship in the State department of labor.

#### Workmen's Compensation Laws

The recommendations made by the child-labor committee in regard to workmen's compensation provisions relating especially to minor workers were incorporated in the report of the committee on workmen's compensation.

### VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND GUIDANCE

#### Occupational guidance for the deaf

In order to determine what vocational opportunities are open to the deaf and to the hard of hearing, the United States Office of Education has secured data from 19,580 deaf or hard-of-hearing persons of employable age. It was hoped through this study to obtain further light on the types of training that schools for the deaf should offer, and to develop methods of guidance for deaf pupils. A brief report of the study by Dr. Elise H. Marrens, senior specialist on the education of exceptional children for the Office of Education, appears in *School Life* for October 1936 under the title, "Guidance for Deaf and Hard of Hearing." A full report, entitled "The Deaf and the Hard-of-Hearing in the Occupational World," is in preparation as Bulletin 1936, No. 3, United States Office of Education.

#### National Youth Administration lists opportunities for Negro youth

"New Opportunities for Negro Youth" is the title of a compilation issued by the National Youth Administration in October 1936. It covers Negro participation in administration and supervision, student aid, work projects, camps for unemployed women, and junior job guidance and placement. (6 pp. Mimeographed.)

#### Vocational-education monographs

Pending completion of the general study on vocational education which is in preparation, the International Labor Office is publishing a series of monographs describing the special features of the vocational-education systems in various countries.

"Vocational Education in Italy" by Rosario Sottilaro, Chief of the Vocational

Education Office of the Fascist Confederation of Workers in Industry, appears in the October 1936 issue of the *International Labor Review* (vol. 34, no. 4, pp. 455-477). Mr. Sottilaro outlines the development of vocational education in Italy and gives an account of the legislation now in force regulating vocational education.

An earlier monograph, "Recent Trends

in Education for Industry and Commerce in Great Britain," by A. Abbott, appeared in the *International Labor Review* for August 1935 (vol. 32, no. 2). A volume dealing with vocational guidance in the different countries has been published as a preface to the vocational-education study, with the title "Problems of Vocational Guidance" (Studies and Reports, Series J (Education), No. 4, Geneva, 1935; 193 pp.).

#### NEWS AND RESEARCH NOTES

*Report of American Federation of Labor at Tampa convention printed*

The report of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to the fifty-sixth annual convention, Tampa, Fla., on November 16, 1936, has been issued in printed form (American Federation of Labor, Washington, 1936; 168 pp.) In addition to some account of the various items of national legislation of interest to labor, a brief résumé is given of the progress of the child-labor amendment (pp. 104-105).

An analysis of the provisions of the Social Security Act (pp. 112-117) is followed by a discussion of problems raised

by the act, and the responsibilities of labor under the act.

*Holidays for home workers in Germany* Under the National Labor Regulation Act of March 1934 and the Act of March 1936 relating to industrial home work, the Labor Trustees of Germany have promulgated regulations under which about three-fourths of the 200,000 home workers in the clothing industry receive holidays with pay. Under these regulations home workers are entitled to a vacation of 6 days after one year of service, with 2 percent of the year's wage. *Industrial and Labor Information* (International Labor Office, Geneva) vol. 50, no. 13 (Sept. 28, 1936), pp. 408-409.

#### BOOK AND PERIODICAL NOTES

(Child Labor)

**FEDERAL AID FOR EDUCATION;** a brief history, data for 1934-35 and a bibliography, by Timon Covert. Circular No. 162, U. S. Office of Education, Washington, September 1936. 19 pp. Mimeographed.

An account of Federal land grants for common schools, provisions since 1900 for Federal aid, and both regular and emergency appropriations for Federal aid for education in 1934-35 are given in this circular. A list of selected references on Federal aid to education is appended.

**DIGEST OF STATE AND FEDERAL LABOR LEGISLATION.** Bulletin No. 9, Division of Labor Standards, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, 1936. 32 pp.

Labor laws enacted between September 15, 1935, and September 15, 1936, are summarized in this

handbook. The subjects covered include child labor, hours of labor, industrial home work, interstate compacts, and minimum wages.

**REGULATION OF CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT UNDER THE WALSH-HEALEY ACT,** by Hermon K. Murphey. Conference Board Information Service: Domestic Affairs Series, Memorandum No. 53. National Industrial Conference Board (247 Park Ave., New York), Oct. 15, 1936. 10 pp. Mimeographed.

In addition to the provisions of the act and regulations issued under the act by the Secretary of Labor, the National Industrial Conference Board discusses a number of points on which it feels the Walsh-Healey Act needs further clarification.

PRINCIPLES OF LABOR LEGISLATION, by John R. Commons, LL.D., and John B. Andrews, Ph.D. Fourth revised edition. Harper & Bros., New York, 1936. 606 pp.

The preface summarizes developments and changes in labor legislation since 1916 when the first edition of this book appeared.

State legislation affecting child labor is summarized as of July 1, 1936, under age requirements, physical requirements, educational requirements, and special problems in enforcing restrictions on child labor (pp. 169-185).

INVESTIGATIONS ON RESPIRATORY DUST DISEASE IN OPERATIVES IN THE COTTON INDUSTRY, by Carl Prausnitz, M.D. Medical Research Council, Special Report Series, No. 212. H.M. Stationery Office, London, 1936. 73 pp.

Professor Prausnitz finds evidence of the existence of a specific agent in cotton dust capable of producing the lung conditions that disable some cotton workers after long exposure. He shows that in all probability this factor is contained in the protein of the dust. As all patients suffering from this respiratory dust disease were also shown to have allergic sensitiveness, he concludes that the disease is related to ordinary asthma. The ventilating and exhaust appliances now generally in use in cotton mills remove the coarser particles of cotton dust from the air, but apparently do not protect the workers from the finer particles which produce this intense irritation of the respiratory system in susceptible persons.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SYNTHETIC TEXTILE FIBRE INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES AND SOME ASSOCIATED HEALTH HAZARDS, by Alice Hamilton, M.D. Division of Labor Standards, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, 1936. 14 pp. Mimeographed.

Dr. Hamilton states that of the 25 rayon factories in the United States employing a total of more than 50,000 workers, 19 factories use the viscose process. She considers this more dangerous to the workers than either the acetate or the cuprammonium process, used by the remaining plants, because of the use of carbon disulphide in the process and the presence of sulphuretted hydrogen as a by-product.

A FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF HIGH-SCHOOL GRADUATES IN CLEVELAND. *School Review*, (Chicago), vol. 44, no. 8 (October 1936), p. 564.

More than 3,000 graduates selected to represent various types of the city's population were interviewed by the students of Fenn College who carried on this study under the FERA.

It was found that 25 percent of the students graduating from Cleveland high schools between January 1929 and June 1934 were wholly unemployed in October 1935.

FAIR AND CLEAR IN THE HOME; a symposium on household employment, edited by Dorothy P. Wells and Carol Biba. Womans Press, New York, 1936. 79 pp.

Problems of raising standards of household employment so as to make it a desirable occupation for girls are discussed in this small volume from the point of view of Y.W.C.A. leaders. A chapter on legislation for household workers is contributed by Catherine B. Allen of the San Diego Y.W.C.A.

WAGE-EARNING CHILDREN—Great Britain. *Times Educational Supplement*, London, Oct. 17, 1936, p.380.

The Committee on Wage-Earning Children has sent to the Home Secretary a memorandum on the hours of work of young persons, asking that the Factories Bill, which the Government has promised to introduce in the coming session of Parliament, should provide for limiting hours of work for young persons to 40 a week.

The memorandum states that the last report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops shows that many boys and girls work the full legal limit of 55½ hours a week in textile factories and 60 hours in other factories and workshops. Children of 14 or 15 years are working in some areas from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and until 1 or even 4 p.m. on Saturdays. The long hours of labor appear to be accompanied by a high and increasing accident risk. The number of accidents per 100,000 young workers employed was 3,130, against 2,542 per 100,000 adult workers, in 1935. In 1928 the accident risk for young persons exceeded that for adults by 3 percent. In 1935 this figure had risen to 22 percent.

## OF CURRENT INTEREST

### Relief statistics available from Social Security Board

Published by the Social Security Board, Washington, D.C. "Changes During July 1936 in Different Types of Public and Private Relief in Urban Areas" appeared under date of October 19, 1936 (9 pp., planographed).

### New periodicals in various fields of thought

The first issue of the *Public Opinion Quarterly* has been announced for December 1936 by the School of Public Affairs, Princeton University, Princeton, N.J. This will be devoted to the exchange of information and the analysis of problems connected with public opinion in the fields of technical research, government, organized groups, communications, and promotion. The managing editor is Harwood L. Childs, and the subscription price is \$4 yearly.

*Your Child in School and at Work* is the title of a new quarterly publication of the Public Education and Child Labor Association of Pennsylvania, which also publishes a monthly bulletin, *Pennsylvania's Children*. The first issue of the new quarterly is dated November 1936 (John N. Patterson, Editor, 1505 Race Street, Philadelphia, Pa., 23 pp.). The contents include "A Glance Behind the Curtain," by William Dodge Lewis, summarizing the work of Bruce M. Watson, who served as executive director of the Association for 21 years, and lists the desirable laws in the children's field passed by the Pennsylvania Legislature during that time; also, an article by Katharine F. Lenroot, Chief of the Children's Bureau, entitled "Influence of Lay Opinion in Securing Child Protection."

The relief statistics formerly published by the Children's Bureau are now being pub-

The first number of *Indian Education* is dated September 15, 1936. This is an 8-page fortnightly field letter issued by the Education Division of the United States Office of Indian Affairs, Washington, D.C. The fourth number, dated November 1, 1936, contains a striking little story, "Six Weeks to Live," illustrating the importance of careful X-ray examinations of Indian children in order to stamp out tuberculosis.

*Jobs & Careers--The Vocational Digest* is issued monthly by Jobs & Careers, Inc., 520 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago. The subscription price is \$3 a year. The November 1936 issue (vol. 1, no. 9) includes condensations of several vocational-guidance pamphlets designed for young persons interested in chemistry.

### CONFERENCE CALENDAR

Jan. 21-24 Council of State Governments. Third general assembly, Washington, D.C.

Jan. 23-25 Child Labor Day. Sponsored by National Child Labor Committee, 419 Fourth Ave., New York, N.Y.

Feb. 16-19 National Vocational Guidance Association. Convention, New Orleans, La.

Feb. 17-20 American Council of Guidance and Personnel Associations and Member Organizations. New Orleans, La.

Feb. 18-20 American Orthopsychiatric Association. Fourteenth annual meeting, Roosevelt Hotel, New York, N.Y.

Feb. 25-27 National Progressive Education Association. Annual convention, St. Louis, Mo.

Feb. 25-27 New England Hospital Association. Boston, Mass.

April 12-15 Red Cross Annual Convention. Washington, D.C.

June 1-3 National Association for the Prevention of Infant Mortality. Seventh English Speaking Conference on Maternity and Child Welfare, London.

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